

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a method for *in vitro* evaluation of the aggressiveness of tumor cells by measuring the level of expression of all or part of a gene coding for semaphorin 3A in healthy epithelial cells and in epithelial tumor cells. The invention also relates to a method of inhibiting the invasive power of epithelial tumor cells, consisting in increasing the levels of semaphorin 3A levels present in and/or in the vicinity of said epithelial tumor cells.

Also enclosed herewith is a substitute sequence listing (3 pages) in both paper and computer readable forms to be entered as part of the present application.